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12 MARCH 1980 TEL POLICY,
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
(FOUO 5/80)

1 OF 1

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12 March 1980

Worldwide Report

TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

(FOUO 5/80)



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CONTENTS	PAGE
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	
CAMEROON	
Equipment in Newly-Inaugurated Radio Center Listed (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, 11 Jan 80)	1
Television by Satellite (Pierre Langereux; AIR & COSMOS, 19 Jan 80)	2
WEST EUROPE	
FRANCE	
Briefs New Radio Station	3
ITALY	
New Electronic Telephone Exchange System 'Proteo' Presented (Edoardo Stucchi; CORRIERE DELLA SERA, 16 Jan 80)	4

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CAMEROON

EQUIPMENT IN NEWLY-INAUGURATED RADIO CENTER LISTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 11 Jan 80 p 86

[Text] President Ahmadou Ahidjo on 3 January 1980 inaugurated the new radio center at Yaounde. On that occasion, the head of state of the Cameroon emphasized "the grave nature of the informational imbalance, as between the developing and the industrialized countries, which have infinitely more powerful technical facilities."

According to the president, the disequilibrium at the regional level was taken into account by the Organization for African Unity (OAU), which set up the Pan-African News Agency (PANA), an organization designed "to contribute not only to African information in an area in which it depends largely on foreign facilities, but also to the bringing together, and to economic, social and cultural progress of the African peoples.

After noting that the Cameroon, "conscious of information's role, has not ceased its participation in international work directed to research involving a new economic and informational order," President Ahidjo added that "It is in this context that this year, Yaounde will host an inter-governmental conference on communications policies in Africa."

The director of Radio-Cameroon, Mr Saa Israel, in turn declared that the Radio Center included a low frequency unit as well as a high frequency transmitter, and that it made use of three transmitters, two being 100 kw short wave units and the other a 20 kw medium wave facility.

Several French companies participated in the technical work connected with these units, the entire cost of which was financed by the government of the Cameroon, and represented a total of 3.5 billion CFA francs.

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CAMEROON

TELEVISION BY SATELLITE

Paris AIR & COSMOS in French 19 Jan 80 pp 34-35

[Article by Pierre Langereux: "Cameroon is Interested in Telecommunications Satellites"; passages in slantlines are published in boldface/

[Text] /Cameroon is now interested in using satellites to complete its national television network project./

Bids on this project were initially planned to be let internationally on 15 December 1979 but have been postponed to 15 March 1980 at the request of the European industrial group Eurospace, which supports European space efforts. The bids were to be based on the ECS or Telecom 1 satellites, which are under development, to meet Cameroon's short-term television needs.

/Eurospace also plans to demonstrate telecommunications and television transmission via the Symphony satellite between Tunis, Tunisia and Douala, Cameroon on 16-18 October 1980./

The French Postal and Telecommunications service is, with the CNES [National Center for Space Studies], responsible for the national telecommunications satellite Telecom 1 and the direct television satellite TDF 1 projects; they are very much interested in the matter. When the DGT [Directorate General of Telecommunications] presented the Telecom 1 satellite project, which will begin operating in 1983, it announced that a part of the satellite's capacity could be used by African countries, most of which are covered by the satellite.

French and European industry is now also in a position to offer a derivative of Telecom 1 that would be competitive with U.S. bids; it would complete a telecommunications system intended for one or several African countries.

The development calendar of the national Cameroonian television network projects servicing the two largest cities in the country, Douala and Yaounde, in the first phase; in the second phase of operation, after 1983, the whole country will be covered, and the Cameroonian project will then be compatible with the telecommunications satellites developed in Europe (ECS or Telecom 1).

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FRANCE

BRIEFS

NEW RADIO STATION--Andre Rossi [not further identified] is preparing, at the request of [Prime Minister Raymond] Barre, the establishment in the UAR (in Abu Dhabi or Umm-al-Qaywayn) of a mediumwave broadcast station, an affiliate of RMC [Radio Monte Carlo] which would complement the station on Cyprus. It would broadcast in Arabic and French. Better cooperation from the French announcers is hoped for this time. [Text] [Paris LA LETTRE DE L'EXPANSION in French 18 Feb 80 p 5]

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ITALY

NEW ELECTRONIC TELEPHONE EXCHANGE SYSTEM 'PROTEO' PRESENTED

Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 16 Jan 80 p 15

[Article by Edoardo Stucchi: "'Proteo' Will Change the Telephone Into a Robot"]

[Text] Milan--Within a few years we shall no longer have the sensation of long distance when talking by telephone; it will seem that we are speaking from only a few meters away; the lines will be free of disturbances and the communications clearer and without interference. It will also be possible to speak simultaneously with two parties. The credit belongs to a system known as "Proteo," a completely electronic exchange developed by SIT [Italian-German Company] Siemens, capable of commuting and transmitting sounds, information and images on a single line with the precision of a millionth of a second.

The new equipment, installed by SIP [Italian Telephone Company] at Milan's "Bersaglio" exchange, now being tried out, will enter into operation in the middle of 1980 and, for the moment, will serve a limited number of subscribers. Day before yesterday "Proteo" was presented to the national and foreign press in a meeting held in Settimo Milanese, headquarters of one of SIT Siemens' plants, in the presence of Senator Vittorino Colombo, minister of post and telecommunications, officials of his ministry, of ANIE [National Association of Electrical and Electronic Industries], of the financial company, STET [Telephone Finance Corporation], of SIP branches and of Italcable.

The new system of telecommunications exchange, whose operation was demonstrated for the minister and his collaborators during a visit to SIP's "Bersaglio" telephone exchange, is completely Italian in concept and will be able to satisfy the requirements of the entire national telephone network. With this accomplishment the Italian telecommunications industry has succeeded in becoming a part of that pool of European and worldwide firms which not only dedicate themselves to study and research but also provide whatever is necessary to develop projects to completion.

After analyzing the problem of unemployment among the youth, which will become more acute with the advent of electronics in telecommunications,

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Minister Colombo spoke of what was done in the FRG to keep the sector busy and mentioned the establishment of a "national telecommunications plan" in which all branches of the sector will participate.

"We are in a phase which is critical for telecommunications," the minister concluded, "at a time when development programs are being carried out in the telephone sector, and we need the support of workers and citizens. The rate adjustment of last month is only a physiological moment in our lives and should not be considered a trauma. In turn, companies will become involved in investments (3,000 billion this year), in the improvement of services--and "Proteo" confirms this--and in expansion of the network; 800,000 new telephone hookups are anticipated for 1980."

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